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DOCTOR
STRANGE
DOC UNDER ATTACK BY HIS OWN BODY !
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DON'T PAY THE FERRYMAN--!

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ST. VINCENT'S MEDICAL CENTER, NEW YORK CITY...
MOVE! IF THIS ONE ISN'T ON A HEART-LUNG IN MINUTES, HE'S A DEAD MAN!
BUT-- JEEZ, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GUY? I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY-THING LIKE THIS!
SOME THING ATTACKED A RESTAURANT IN SOHO-- SHOVED A SPEAR THE SIZE OF A SMALL TREE THROUGH THE GUY AND HURT HIS GIRL-FRIEND, TOO! I DON'T KNOW HOW HE'S STILL ALIVE!

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WAIT! DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE THIS GUY? THIS IS DR. STRANGE! YOU KNOW, THAT RICH SURGEON WHO WENT NUTS AND BECAME A GURU OR SOMETHING?
HE LOST A MILLION-DOLLAR PRACTICE BY MESSING UP HIS HANDS IN A CAR ACCIDENT AND THEN WENT TO TIBET!
DOESN'T RING A BELL--BUT IF HE'S A GURU--
--I HOPE HE'S PREPARED HIMSELF FOR THE AFTERLIFE.
THAT STAIN--
--WHATEVER IT IS, IT ISN'T JUST BLOOD! GET HIM INTO O/R!
ACROSS TOWN, AT 177A BLEECKER STREET, THE PLACE WHERE--UP UNTIL VERY RECENTLY-- DR. STRANGE HAD HIS RESIDENCE--
ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY BACK! SHOW'S OVER!
PLEASE--CAN I COME ALONG? MY NAME'S SARA WOLFE--I'M A CLOSE FRIEND OF MS. BLESSING'S--!
OKAY, BUT STAY OUT OF THE WAY, MISS!
SHE'S NOT HURT CRITICALLY--BUT WHEN SHE COLLAPSED IT LOOKED LIKE SHE WAS DRESSED LIKE DR. STRANGE! ONLY NOW SHE'S NOT! WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON HERE?

I'M AFRAID IT'S NOTHING 'ON EARTH', SARA.
YOW!
SIT DOWN, MISS!
ALL RIGHT, STEPHEN, I'M GLAD YOU'RE FINALLY DECIDING TO FILL YOUR PERSONAL SECRETARY IN ON THIS! FIRST --WHERE ARE YOU?
SOMEPLACE I'D RATHER NOT BE, SARA-- RIGHT HERE!
OH!
MY BODY WAS WOUNDED IN THE BATTLE, AND SO MY ASTRAL FORM WENT INTO MORGANNA.
BATTLE? WHAT BATTLE?
THERE IS A SORCERER OF GREAT POWER SOMEWHERE IN THIS UNIVERSE WHO SENT A WARRIOR TO FIGHT ME--A CATSPAW WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO DIVERT ME WHILE HE HIMSELF COULD STEAL THE MANSION AND ALL THE POWERFUL MYSTIC ARTIFACTS IT CONTAINS!
HE'S CLEARLY A MASTER MAGICIAN OF GREAT POWER, FOR I WAS HARD PRESSED TO DEFEAT EVEN HIS MINION --AND NOW HE HAS EVERYTHING!
YOU MEAN EVERYONE AS WELL-- BOTH WONG AND TOPAZ WERE IN THE SANCTUM!
BOTH? BUT I DISTINCTLY TOLD WONG TO LEAVE!
THEN I'VE ENDANGERED EVERYONE IN THIS! I WAS FORCED TO USE MORGANNA'S BODY TO FIGHT-- AND INJURED IT--MY SERVENT AND MY HOUSE-GUEST WHO ENTRUSTED HERSELF TO ME ARE WHO KNOWS WHERE; AND--
AND ME?
EMERGENCY
MY OWN BODY WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED, SARA-- AND IF IT DIES, THIS ASTRAL FORM CAN'T LONG REMAIN HERE. AND WITHOUT THE MANSION, THE ONLY INSTRUMENT I CAN NOW USE--
--IS YOU, SARA WOLFE.
ME?

WELL, YOU AND MY ONE REMAINING TALISMAN, THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO, MORGANNA HAS IT. TAKE IT.
ALL RIGHT, END OF THE LINE, EVERYBODY OUT! HOW IS SHE?
STABILIZED BUT NOT TOO GOOD.
SHE'S IN GOOD HANDS NOW, SARA. SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
OUR BUSINESS LIES ELSEWHERE IN THIS HOSPITAL.
I SINCERELY REGRET THIS, SARA. MY COHABITATING IN YOUR BODY WITH YOU IS THE ULTIMATE INVASION OF PRIVACY.
BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE.
NOW, SARA, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO REPEAT THE SPELL I'VE PUT INTO YOUR MIND CAREFULLY.
O-OK, DOCTOR --HERE GOES!
MMPH. YOU REGRETTABLY LACK THE TRAINING OR APTITUDE TO USE THE EYE'S HIGHER FUNCTIONS. A PITY... THEY'D HAVE BEEN USEFUL.
SORRY. NOW WHAT?
WE HAVE TO GET TO MY BODY QUICKLY. IT'S IN SERIOUS DANGER --AND NOT JUST MEDICALLY! WE HAVE TO HURRY!

FOR A MOMENT, THE SANCTUM SANCTORUM HAD BEEN SURROUNDED IN LIGHT. BUT NOW, ONLY FOG GREETS WONG'S EYES. THERE IS AN ACRID STING IN THE AIR.
THEN THE FOG CLEARS FOR A MOMENT--AND THE SERVANT AND COMPANION OF DR. STRANGE STIFFENS IN SHOCK. A THOUSAND GODS TREMBLE ON HIS LIPS, BUT THEIR NAMES DIE.
MISS TOPAZ! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED--!
YES--!
THE OTHER HALF OF MY SOUL IS OUT THERE. I CALLED TO IT--WE'RE VERY NEAR TO IT NOW--!
I MUST GO TO IT--TO ME--!
MISTRESS, NO!
YOU WILL DIE IN MOMENTS IF YOU LEAVE HERE!
BUT I HAVE TO GO!
GO? INTO THAT?!
LOOK!

THE HYDROCHLORIC CLOUDS BILLOW, EATING AT THE VERY STONE OF THE MANSION. WERE THE SKY VISIBLE, A DIM LENS OF A DYING GALAXY WOULD DOMINATE THE NIGHT.
AND THROUGH THE HAZE, WITH BEADS OF IODINE SWEAT ON THEIR MASSIVE LIMBS-- THEY COME!
TAKE CARE! THE MASTER SAID GREAT DEFENSES STILL LURK!
BAH! THEN I TEST THEM!

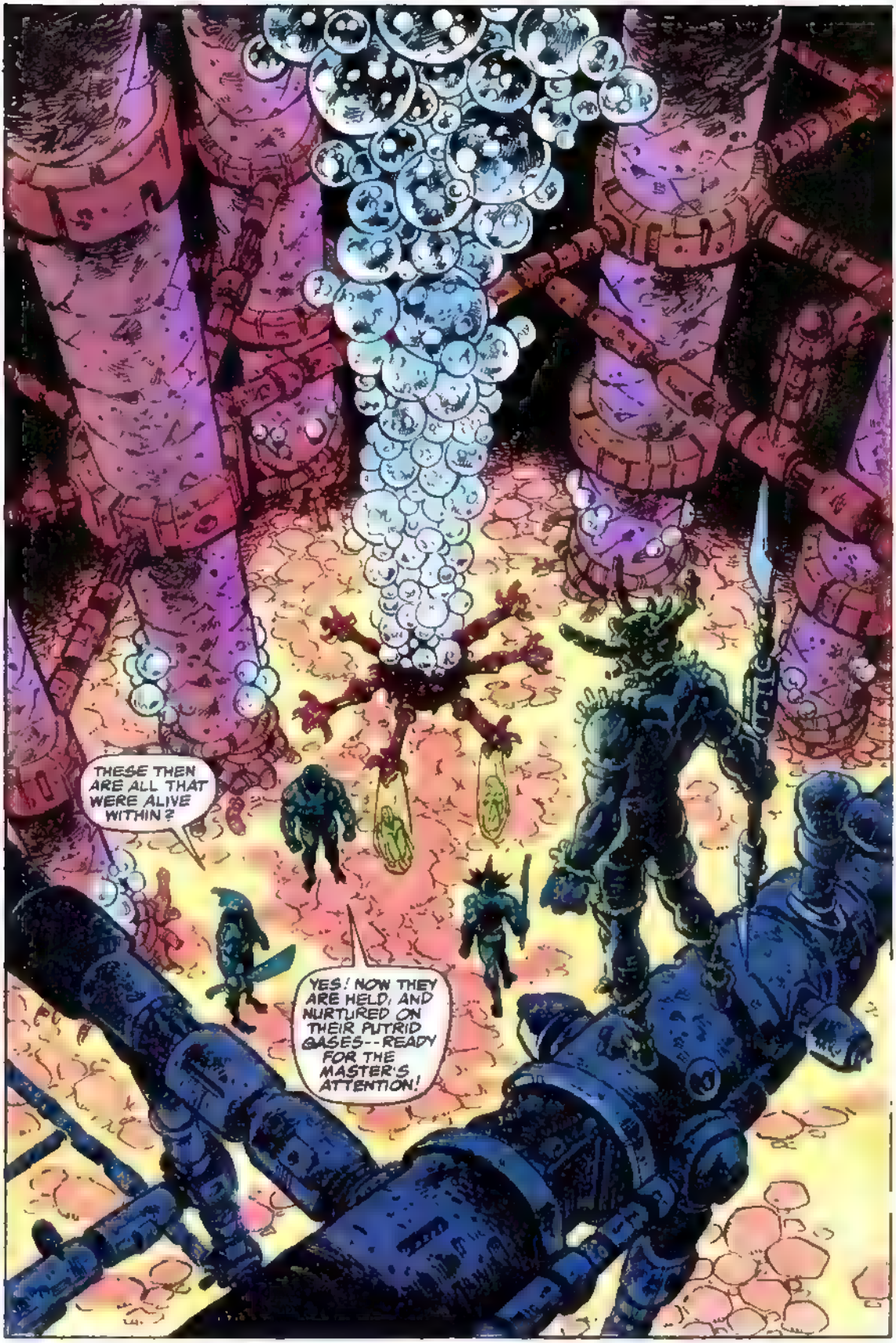
FOOL! A MAGE'S HOARD YOU ENTER WITH A STICK?
LET THE WONDERWORK BE BROUGHT FORTH-- THE MASTER'S OWN DEVICE!
FIRE!
DOWN, MISS TOPAZ--
BUT I HAVE TO--
THE DEVICE BROKE DOWN THE PROTECTIVE SPELLS! WE ARE OPEN TO THEM!
RUN, MISS TOPAZ!

I WILL DELAY THEM UNTIL YOU ESCAPE!
KOFF! CAN'T --BREATHE--!
KRAK
AIR IS FOUL HERE--HARD TO BREATHE.
STOP YOUR WHINE AND TAKE THESE TO THE MASTER.
HE WILL TREAT THEM WELL INDEED--
--FOR THEY HAVE PUT IN HIS HANDS ULTIMATE POWER!
AND ON EARTH--
THE THOUGHTS I READ SAY I'M IN THEATER 3. THIS SHOULD BE IT.
I'LL JUST LET YOU KNOW I HATE THIS --STEALING A LAB COAT AND SNEAKING AROUND! WHAT IF--
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, YOUNG LADY?
EEP. I'M--
YOU'RE NOT ON MY TEAM! AND WHERE'S YOUR ID TAG?
OH, PLEASE, STEPHEN --CAN'T YOU ZAP HIM OR SOMETHING?
BAH! I'M CALLING SECURITY!

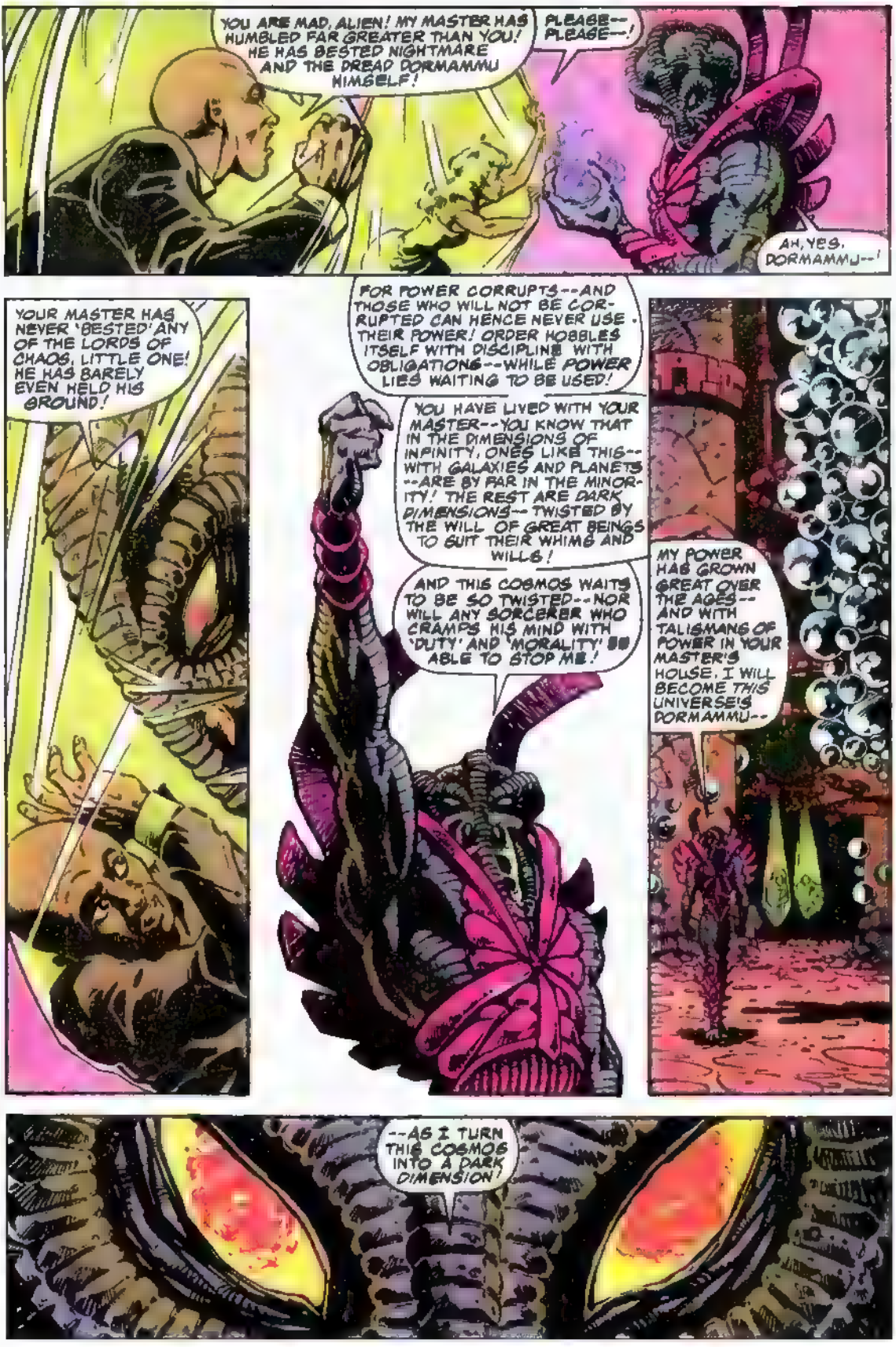
PLEASE--IT'S A LONG STORY, AND A WEIRD ONE, BUT YOU HAVE TO LISTEN! THAT'S MY FRIEND IN THERE--
WE ALL HAVE FRIENDS, MISS! WE'LL DO EVERY-THING POSSIBLE!
BUT WHAT YOU MEAN BY 'POSSIBLE' MAY NOT BE ENOUGH.
YOU MUST BE TOUCHED BY THE LIGHT OF TRUTH IF YOU ARE TO SEE WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON.
NOW, DOCTOR, I CAN SPEAK WITH YOU. WHAT I HAVE MADE VISIBLE IS MY ASTRAL FORM--
WHAT IN--
--AND THE BODY YOU ARE ABOUT TO OPERATE ON IS MINE. THE WOUNDS IT WAS GIVEN WERE BOTH PHYSICAL AND MYSTICAL.
IT WILL TAKE ALL OUR COMBINED SKILLS TO SAVE MY BODY--AND SO I ASK YOU TO LET THIS YOUNG LADY STAND BY DURING THE OPERATION, SO I CAN WORK THROUGH HER.

I DON'T KNOW-- MY COMMON SENSE TELLS ME THAT THIS IS SOME SORT OF ELABORATE TRICK--
--BUT MY BUSINESS IS SAVING LIVES BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY SCRUB UP AND COME ALONG
THANK YOU FOR YOUR OPEN MINDEDNESS, DOCTOR.
AND SO--
BOY, OH, BOY--
ALL RIGHT, NOW THAT YOU'VE SEEN THE WOUND, CHOKE YOUR DINNERS BACK DOWN AND LET'S GET STARTED
SIX RIBS BROKEN-- LUNG'S COLLAPSED-- HOW IT MISSED HIS HEART IS BEYOND ME --THERE'S STILL FOREIGN MATTER IN THERE. LET'S GET IT OUT.
STEADY, SARA--I NEED YOU CALM AND WITHOUT FEAR--!
THE MAN'S A MASTER-- EVERY BIT AS GOOD AS I EVER WAS--
SOMETHING IN THERE--SOFT-- NURSE, HELP--
--ME--!

GAAAH! WHAT ARE THEY?!?
AS I FEARED --THEY'RE BACTERIA, MYSTICALLY ENLARGED!
STRETCH OUT YOUR HANDS AND REPEAT AFTER ME --EXACTLY AFTER ME--
ALMOST--I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO GRAB THEM OFF HIM AND TRY THE SECOND FORMULA--
I--UH--THANK YOU, MISS--
MS. SARA WOLFE, DOCTOR. YOU'RE WELCOME.


THESE THEN ARE ALL THAT WERE ALIVE WITHIN?
YES! NOW THEY ARE HELD, AND NURTURED ON THEIR PUTRID GASES--READY FOR THE MASTER'S ATTENTION!

YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! IT'S MADNESS! WHO ARE YOU TO CHALLENGE THE UNIVERSE'S SORCERER SUPREME?
FASSH!
WHO INDEED?
WHO BUT THE NEXT SORCERER SUPREME OF THIS DIMENSION?
ONE NAMED URTHONA!
AND WITH ALL THE OUTGOING MAGUS'S RESOURCES, THE SUCCESSION SHALL BE QUICK!
IT'S HIM! THE ONE FROM THE GLASS! THE ONE I REACHED OUT TO!
OF COURSE YOU DID-- BECAUSE YOU WERE LOOKING FOR--
--THIS!
AND YOU REACHED OUT WITH SUCH LONGING THAT I WAS ABLE TO PULL THE ENTIRE SANCTUM WITH YOU--
OH PLEASE --MY SOUL--!


YOU ARE MAD, ALIEN! MY MASTER HAS HUMBLED FAR GREATER THAN YOU! HE HAS BESTED NIGHTMARE AND THE DREAD DORMAMMU HIMSELF!
PLEASE--PLEASE--!
AH, YES, DORMAMMU--!
YOUR MASTER HAS NEVER 'BESTED' ANY OF THE LORDS OF CHAOS, LITTLE ONE! HE HAS BARELY EVEN HELD HIS GROUND!
FOR POWER CORRUPTS--AND THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE CORRUPTED CAN HENCE NEVER USE THEIR POWER! ORDER HOBBLES ITSELF WITH DISCIPLINE WITH OBLIGATIONS--WHILE POWER LIES WAITING TO BE USED!
YOU HAVE LIVED WITH YOUR MASTER--YOU KNOW THAT IN THE DIMENSIONS OF INFINITY, ONES LIKE THIS--WITH GALAXIES AND PLANETS --ARE BY FAR IN THE MINORITY! THE REST ARE DARK DIMENSIONS-- TWISTED BY THE WILL OF GREAT BEINGS TO SUIT THEIR WHIMS AND WILLS!
AND THIS COSMOS WAITS TO BE SO TWISTED--NOR WILL ANY SORCERER WHO CRAMPS HIS MIND WITH 'DUTY' AND 'MORALITY' BE ABLE TO STOP ME!
MY POWER HAS GROWN GREAT OVER THE AGES-- AND WITH TALISMANS OF POWER IN YOUR MASTER'S HOUSE, I WILL BECOME THIS UNIVERSE'S DORMAMMU--
--AS I TURN THIS COSMOS INTO A DARK DIMENSION!

I'VE--REPLATED HIS LUNG, AND WE'VE GOT--ALMOST ALL OF THOSE--THOSE FRAGMENTS OUT OF THERE--!
BUT THE THINGS--THINGS I'VE NEVER SEEN--NEVER DREAMT OF--!
EASY, DOCTOR. EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL. DRAW YOUR STRENGTH FROM ME.
THE MAN HAS COURAGE--HE'S LOOKED THE BEAST IN THE FACE AND STILL GOES ON--!
THAT'S THE LAST PIECE--
--THE CLAMP--WHAT IT DID TO THE CLAMP--
DOCTOR HIS HEART'S STOPPED!
WHAT?
ONE SIDE! LET ME SEE!
DEMONS OF DENAK!

SARA, THE MYSTIC POISON HAS FINALLY INCHED ITS WAY THROUGH THE VEINS INTO THE HEART. ONLY I CAN SEE WHAT MUST BE DONE. DO I HAVE YOUR PERMISSION TO TAKE YOU OVER?
OF COURSE, STEPHEN--!
DOCTOR--YOU HAVE TO LET ME TAKE OVER THIS PHASE OF THE OPERATION. ONLY I CAN SAVE THE BODY NOW. THIS OPERATION USED TO BE ONE OF MY SPECIALTIES.
TRUST ME.
VERY--VERY WELL.
NOW LET YOUR MIND GO BLANK--RELAX--I'M TAKING OVER
THE ORGANS ARE WARM AND DELICATE--GLISTENING WITH LIFE, SURPRISED IN THE LIGHT--
--AND YOU REMEMBER THE MYSTERY AND MIRACLE OF THE BODY, AND THE WONDER THAT GREW WITH EACH DAY IN MEDICAL SCHOOL--
--AND THEN YOU REMEMBER SOMETHING ELSE YOUR HANDS REMEMBER
REMEMBER THE ACCIDENT--AND THE TREMBLING--
--THE UNCONTROLLABLE TREMBLING THAT ENDED YOUR CAREER AS A SURGEON!
HOW STUPID COULD YOU HAVE BEEN?
DID YOU THINK YOU COULD JUST WALK BACK IN?
DID YOU THINK YOU COULD BECOME A DOCTOR AGAIN JUST LIKE THAT?

DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD SAVE YOUR OWN LIFE?
NO!
NOT INTO THE LIGHT! NO!
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
I DON'T KNOW! SHE JUST COLLAPSED!
NO! THE WORLD NEEDS ME--!
YOUR TIES TO THE WORLD ARE DISSOLVING, STEPHEN--
--AND YOUR TIES TO THE NEXT ARE FORMING! COME!
MY FORMER COMRADE THE VALKYRIE CALLS ME--
BURNING-- MY ASTRAL BODY BURNS WITH JOYFUL FIRE--

YOU DIED A HERO'S DEATH, STEPHEN! YOUR JOURNEY SHALL BE GREAT --YOUR ESCORT THE HIGHEST!
YOU HAVE BEEN TO THIS SIDE BEFORE, STEPHEN --YOU KNOW IT IS NO TERROR! THERE IS MORE HERE--
BUT-- MY DUTY-- PEOPLE WILL SUFFER IF I LEAVE--
SUFFER? HAVEN'T THEY SUFFERED BECAUSE OF YOUR PRESENCE AS WELL?
DUTY LIES THERE-- BUT DOESN'T LOVE LIE HERE?
THE ANCIENT ONE AWAITS --YOUR, MOTHER, FATHER --EVEN YOUR ALICE--!
ALICE--I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN--ALICE--!
AND WILL YOU THROW AWAY LOVE --FOR DUTY?
YES--LOVE--MORGANNA, WONG, SARA, TOPAZ! NO! I HAVE TO GET BACK! I HAVE TO FIGHT!
I--WILL--LIVE!!!

HE'S TRYING TO CONTINUE THE OPERATION --BUT NEITHER OF US CAN DO IT OUR SELVES!
I MUST MERGE WITH HIM --AND--
WHAT--WHAT'S HAPPENING?
NO--HE DOESN'T ACCEPT --WON'T BELIEVE--
--WON'T--!

DON'T BE AFRAID, STEPHEN--DON'T BE AFRAID TO LET GO--TO LOVE--!
NO--!
NO, NO, NO, NO! NO! NO!!
NO!
HEAR ME, DOCTOR! DON'T REJECT ME! I AM ASSISTING YOU IN THE OPERATION--NOTHING MORE! BE CALM!
I--OK.
NOW WE NEED LIGHT!
STEPHEN!

THIS IS THE LAST LEG, DOCTOR--EVERYTHING DEPENDS ON YOUR NOT GETTING RATTLED--!
RATTLED? AFTER ALL THIS, WHAT COULD RATTLE--
--GOOD LORD!
BUT--YES, I UNDERSTAND--!
AND THE SCALPEL CUTS --AND THE CLAMP-- WITH TINY MOTIONS, QUICK, SURE-- DESPERATE, INCREDIBLE MOTIONS--
--MOTIONS THAT SEVER DEATH FROM LIFE!
THE HEART BEATS.
UH!
I WON'T TROUBLE YOU ANY LONGER, DOCTOR!
WELL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--
--I BELIEVE WE'VE PERFORMED OUR MEDICAL MIRACLE OF THE YEAR!
THANK YOU ALL.

AND THAT GOES DOUBLE FOR ME, SARA.
I'M SORRY I WASN'T MORE HELP--!
I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER UNDERSTAND WHAT WENT ON IN THERE, MISS--MS. WOLFE--
THATS OK, DOCTOR-- NEITHER WILL I, I'M AFRAID--!
BUT I KNOW DEDICATION WHEN I SEE IT. THANK YOU.
HEY, ALL IN A DAY'S WORK.
BUT I'M AFRAID THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF OUR TASK! WE HAVE TO FIND WONG AND TOPAZ--
--SOMEWHERE IN INTERGALACTIC SPACE? SOUNDS REAL SIMPLE TO ME--
DR. STRANGE, I HAVE COME FOR YOU!